

**City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Joseph E. McGuinness presiding. Mayor McGuinness opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll. Council members Joseph Abban, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, Dr. William T. Murphy and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Council members Joseph Ault and Stephen Hougland were absent. Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer's Assistant Stephanie Shepherd, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present. Councilor Murphy offered an invocation. Mayor McGuinness led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements & Presentations

There were no announcements or presentations made.

Consent Agenda

Mayor McGuinness presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the October 5, 2015 Common Council Minutes

Council President Barnett made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Murphy. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Old Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all matters listed under old business by title only, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Public Hearings

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 15-19 An Additional Appropriation - Park & Rec Part-Time & Park & Rec Services – Mayor McGuinness stated that this ordinance requesting an additional appropriation in the amount of \$53,000 was introduced at the previous meeting. The requested appropriation is needed by the Parks Department to operate their facilities through the end of the year. The Mayor said that the 2016 budget included additional funding to help prevent this from happening next year. Mayor McGuinness opened the floor for a public hearing. No one asked to speak. Councilor Austin made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken

with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 15-20 An Additional Appropriation - General-Law-Municipal Department – Mayor McGuinness stated this proposed ordinance for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$20,000 was introduced at the last regular meeting. This funding is needed to cover additional costs attributable to the update of the employee handbook. The Mayor opened the floor for public hearing. No one asked to speak. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Murphy. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

New Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all old business by title only, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Introduction

Common Council Ordinance No.: 15-12 An Ordinance Authorizing the Benefit Paid to the Surviving Spouses of Deceased Members of the 1925 Police Pension Fund and the 1937 Fire Fighters Pension Fund – Mayor McGuinness stating that this is a housekeeping issue related to the annual budget and that he is in favor of suspending the rules and presenting this ordinance for approval tonight if the entire Council is willing. City Attorney Gray stated that in order to suspend the rules, all council members present must vote to do so. Council President Barnett made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried unanimously. The Mayor opened the floor for public hearing. No one asked to speak. Councilor Murphy made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Other Business

There was no other business presented.

Council Comments

Councilor Wertz stated there was a Redevelopment Commission (RDC) meeting tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m. Clerk Treasurer Janet Alexander stated that the State Board of Accounts are here in City Hall working on the 2014 audit. City Attorney Gray stated that the updated personnel handbook had been distributed to all department heads with a request for comments. She reported that many have submitted comments which are being studied. Ms. Gray explained that the employee manual is a document that works to address, in a single place, all of the benefits and issues impacting employees of the City, especially those related to benefits and conduct. She is working with Libby Roberts, an attorney who works with our liability insurance carrier, on this project. This document will be brought to the Council for approval once all of the issues and questions have been addressed. The Council's approval is

required because they appropriate the funds that pay for employee benefits including, vacation, paid holidays, and all other paid benefits.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:11p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 10/30/15

Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer